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## Letter dated 15 May 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council

Attached herewith is the national report of Viet Nam on progress towards the achievement of the internationally agreed goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, for the annual ministerial review to be held during the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2013 of the Economic and Social Council (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Economic and Social Council, under item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda.

(*Signed*) **Le** Hoai Trung
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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**Annex to the letter dated 15 May 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council**

# VIETNAM NATIONAL REPORT 2013

**(FOR Economic and Social Council Annual Ministerial Review)**

**May 01, 2013**

## Executive Summary

***Poverty Reduction.*** Vietnam has obtained remarkable poverty reduction during the recent decade. The poverty rate[1] decreased from 58.1 percent in 1993 to 10.7 percent in 2010. Impressive poverty reduction is the result of strong economic growth, trade liberalization as well as poverty reduction policies targeted directly towards the disadvantaged groups. However, the rates of poverty reduction vary across different ethnic groups and regions. Poverty reduction is unsustainable. A section of the ethnic minority and rural residents still suffer from chronic poverty and do not benefit much from the economic growth and support policies. Urban poverty appears to be an emerging problem due to the high influx of rural migrants and rapid urbanization process.

***Education.*** The country has achieved universal primary education[2]. By 2012, net enrolment rates (NET) for primary education reached 97.7 percent and the NET for lower secondary education is 87.2 percent. Inequality in education access persists between the majority and the minority, migrant and non-migrant as well as between the rural and the urban populations. Quality of the education, especially in teaching and learning is a critical challenge. There is a huge need for educational reforms in teaching and learning and for improvement in school facilities to ensure that the education system can keep up with the rapidly changing economy.

***Gender equality.*** Gender equality has been achieved at the secondary education level but disparity is evident at the higher education level. Males have better access to decent work than their female counterparts. Female are more likely to do agricultural and low-skill work as compared to male. Women's representation in National Assembly decreased to 24.4 percent in 2011. The first National Strategy and National Program on Gender Equality for the period 2011-2020 was formulated to raise social awareness on the importance of gender equality and to promote women's role in political, social and economic areas.

***Health.*** Vietnam's overall health status has experienced huge improvement. Child mortality rates decreased to 23 per 1,000 births by 2012, falling by more than two-thirds since 1990. The country has obtained its MDG for malaria control and prevention. HIV/AIDS prevention and control efforts show progress in identifying infected cases and providing timely treatments. The Government expresses their commitment to expanding health care services and to addressing emerging health problems through integrating health care as a priority in national development strategies and planning, and implementing national targeted program on health care. The health sector still faces problems with low health care quality and disparities in access to health care services across regions.

***Environmental sustainability.*** Climate change has become one of the most challenging issues in the upcoming years. Climate-related disasters have occurred more frequently, posing huge threat to the economy and livelihood of the most vulnerable groups. The country has adopted multiple programs in response to climate change 2011-2020 covering mitigation and adaptation. Vietnam also receives substantial technical and financial assistance from international organizations and agencies in tackling climate change such as utilization of renewable energy and reducing green house gases.

***Global partnership for development.*** Vietnam has made significant progress in building global partnership. The country has been successful in the chairman role of ASEAN in 2010 and carried out WTO commitment on trade and development. The effort in establishing international partnerships has helped Vietnam attract foreign investment, ODA and utilize trade liberalization opportunities, which eventually facilitates economic growth and poverty reduction processes.

[1] Using poverty line 2006-2010 by the Government of Vietnam
[2] Universal primary education is defined by Vietnam national standard (80 percent)

***Science, technology and innovation***. The Vietnamese government has accelerated the formulation of a comprehensive framework and legal development on science and technology. Extensive application of scientific and technological innovations has completely transformed all aspects of the society and the economy. Reforms in state management mechanisms have yielded significant improvement in overall productivity of the economy and in the country's local capacities.

## Part A. Implementation of national development strategies and policies

## MDG 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

### 1.1 Progress

Vietnam has obtained remarkable progress in its poverty reduction effort over the past twenty years. The country had achieved MDG 1 of extreme poverty and hunger eradication. The poverty rate fell from 58.1 percent in 1993 to 10.7 percent in 2010[3]. The speed of poverty reduction in Vietnam is impressive: more than 43 million people were lifted out of poverty during the period 1993-2008. A significant decreasing trend is shown in the three most important poverty measurements: poverty incidence, poverty gap and poverty severity.

Remarkable progress has resulted largely from the recent rapid economic growth as well as the Government's strong focus and persistent priority in poverty reduction over recent decades. Most importantly, the rapid economic growth and trade liberalization, supported by macroeconomic policies such as land and trade reforms have created millions of jobs, providing income and lifting millions of people out of poverty. Second, poverty reduction programs and policies have helped the most vulnerable participating more actively into the economic development process.

### 1.2 National policies

Success in poverty reduction in Vietnam is the result of rigorous economic growth over the past two decades. Liberalization has opened Vietnam to international markets and promoted international trade and foreign investment. Vietnam's joining the World Trade Organization in 2007 has also eliminated trade barriers and facilitated the export of goods with comparative advantages, which in turn creates jobs for low-skilled workers. Despite the impact of recent global economic crisis, Vietnam has maintained its high growth rate, with GDP growth rate standing at 6.1 percent in 2012[4]. From 2000-2012, Vietnam GDP growth rate averaged 6.3 percent[5]. The economic growth process has resulted in creation of millions of jobs for high skill and low skill workers as well as increase in GDP per capita. The employment rate for working population aged 15 and above has increased from 68.3 percent to 75.4 percent[6]. Rigorous economic growth has direct positive impact on poverty reduction.

In addition to macroeconomic development policies, a large number of support policies specifically catering to the disadvantaged groups, particularly the ethnic minority groups have been established. The national programs on job and vocational training have helped increase workers' employability as well as their access to employment. National programs on employments have successfully created 2 million jobs over the period 2006-2010.

[3] VHLSS 2010, GSO using poverty line 2006-2010 by the Government of Vietnam
[4] GSO, 2012
[5] GSO, 2012
[6] GSO, 2012

National poverty reduction polices for the period 2006-2010 had three major strategies: *(i)* promoting production, and livelihood activities to increase the poor's income, *(ii)* improving the poor's access to infrastructure and social services, and *(iii)* building capacity and raising awareness in poor areas. These strategies have been translated into an increasing number of multiple poverty reduction and social assistant programs, which combined a variety of essential socio-economic development elements: public communal infrastructure, credit support for the poor, health insurance, education and vocational training, housing, water sanitation and agricultural extension programs. With comprehensive policy coverage that promotes every important aspect of living condition and steady targets on the most vulnerable and deprived populations in remote communes, these programs have obtained their major objectives of reducing poverty, increasing income levels and improving living standards of the targeted population. By 2010, 77.2 percent of poor households benefit from all support programs and policies, indicating wide policy coverage throughout the country[7].

Sustainability has been strongly incorporated in poverty reduction in most national programs for the period 2011-2020. Programs on sustainable poverty reduction for the period 2011-2020 grants support across a variety of key indicators: health, education, nutrition, housing, legal services, culture, information as well as vocational training support, and job creation for the disadvantaged as well as investment in public infrastructure in especially poverty-stricken areas.

### 1.3 Challenges and recommendations

*Inequality and chronic poverty for the most vulnerable group.* National policies and sustained high economic growth have resulted in a substantial reduction in the poverty rate, but the level of poverty reduction varies across geographic and demographic groups due to different levels of participation in the social and economic development process. The rate of poverty reduction has slowed down over time and most of the remaining poor households are concentrated in rural and mountainous areas which are mainly populated by the ethnic minorities. A large proportion of ethnic minorities are unable to escape from poverty and benefits less from the continual economic growth and support policies. More than 10 million people still suffer from poverty in the country. This group lags behind in the economic growth and poverty reduction. There is a need for policy support in multiple socio-economic aspects specifically for the most disadvantaged group.

*Sustainability.* Poverty reduction is not sustainable because a large proportion of households lifted out of poverty have a high possibility of falling back into poverty. Research studies on poverty show that in recent years, 14.4 percent of the population is considered to be "temporary poor", and an equivalent number of households are most likely to fall back into poverty[8]. Poor and low-income households are highly vulnerable to external and internal risks at community, household and individual levels. Natural disasters, extreme weather events as well as illness are among the highest threats to livelihood. When encountered with shocks, these disadvantaged groups easily fall back into poverty when they have limited access to social protection.

Vietnam has become increasingly exposed to economic crises, climate risk and other types of risk during the globalization process. Access to social protection is ranked among the most important factors that influence living standards, therefore especially important in fighting poverty. The fact that decrease in income, inflation, and illness are the three most critical reasons for falling living standard in 2010[9] reinforces the importance of social protection. Social protection acts as an automatic shield for the poor. The majority of the poor resides in rural areas, and engages in farm

[7] WB, 2012
[8] CAF, 2008, Poverty reduction in Vietnam: Achievement and Challenges
[9] VHLSS 2010, GSO

activities, and these groups have almost no access to any type of insurance such as social insurance, and unemployment insurance. Access to social protection for the disadvantaged group is an essential strategy.

*Urban poverty*. While urban poverty experiences substantial reduction in recent years, rapid urbanization with an influx of immigrants from rural areas in recent years has challenged efforts in raising living standards and socio-economic development in urban areas. There exist significant non-monetary poverty dimensions of urban migrants, particularly in social inclusion, social protection, and access to social services in health and education[10].

Vietnamese society has become more complex than two decades ago when the country had just started the New Reform. Even though Vietnam has become a lower-middle-income country, a substantial section of the population has not been able to escape from poverty. Economic growth plays a pivotal role in reducing poverty; therefore macroeconomic policies to ensure sustainable economic growth should be the first priority, in addition to poverty reduction programs. Poverty has become a more complex and multifaceted problem as characteristics of the poor have been constantly changing. This change requires the formulation of sophisticated and intricate policies that take into account distinct characteristics of every target group so that poverty reduction efforts can achieve effectiveness, alleviate inequality and ensure sustainability.

## MDG 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education

### 2.1 Progress

Vietnam has obtained universal primary education by Vietnam national standard. Net enrolment rate for every educational level consistently increased over the period 2006 – 2012. By 2012, net enrolment rates for primary education stood at 97.7 percent, and the corresponding figure for lower secondary education was 87.2 percent. Completion rates for primary education stands at 92.1 percent, indicating a substantial 7.9 percent who did not complete primary education[11]. Even though access to primary education improves annually, the target of every child completing a full course of primary schooling by 2015 is attainable but highly challenging.

The quality of education has improved on multiple aspects. A substantial number of schools have been newly constructed and renovated to fulfill the increasing demand for all educational levels. Every commune has primary schools; lower secondary school is available in every district. Number of teachers per class has increased for all educational levels; education at remote and mountainous areas has improved extensively, with an increase in number of educational and vocational training centers at these areas. Education has received growing attention as households' expense on education has risen at both rural and urban areas over the years.

### 2.2 National policies

Quality education is an essential factor in enhancing productivity, growth and social development. The Government has set out a comprehensive list of national policies that provide support to both kindergarten and secondary education. The determination of the Government in building a quality education system is highlighted in the Socio-Economic Development Strategy 2011-2010 and the Education Strategic Development Plan 2011-2020. The Strategy emphasizes building a systematic

[10] Social Services for Human Development, Vietnam Human Development Report 2011, UNDP
[11] GSO, 2012

and well-rounded education system with knowledge, innovation, equity, and applicability to embrace a fast-paced growing economy.

Multiple national and regional policies have been constructed and implemented in the past decade to reach two strategic goals: *(i)* to encourage school enrolment at every educational level, and *(ii)* to improve quality of education. The former goal is realized through constructions of schools in remote areas, as well as the application of education fee discounts and exemptions for disadvantaged populations.

The Government has established a comprehensive list of policies pertaining to improving quality of education in important aspects as well as focused its policies on promoting education in the most disadvantaged regions to reduce inequality in education access. Notably, the Government has brought forward a separate policy supporting education fees over the period 2010-2015 for students in poor areas and ethnic minority students throughout their schooling duration. Multiple education support components integrated into various socio-economic development and poverty reduction policies have garnered noticeable success. Construction of school buildings in geographically difficult locations has contributed towards substantial increases in school enrolments, especially at lower secondary and upper secondary levels.

Ongoing national policies and programs during the period 2010-2015 put tremendous support in providing facilities for schools located in remote mountainous areas and raising teachers' qualification. Government policies have paid adequate attention to capacity strengthening for schools in distant locations through improving pedagogical skill, developing suitable teaching syllabuses for teachers and education officials, and building accommodation for teachers working at these locations.

### 2.3 Challenges and recommendation

*Education equity*. Rigorous education policies and strategies have resulted in increasing education opportunities for disadvantaged groups in Vietnam, demonstrated through significant improvement in attainment and completion rates in primary and secondary education. Yet, there exist clear disparities in access to education between rural and urban areas, between the ethnic majority and the ethnic minority. Remote and highland regions where most ethnic minorities reside experience remarkably lower enrolment rates for secondary education than those in the remaining regions. Statistics show primary school attendance rates higher than 96 percent across all six geographic regions, whereas the completion rates for remote and highland regions (the Northern Uplands, the Central Highlands, the Mekong River Delta) are below 90 percent. Huge disparity is also observed for literacy rates between the Kinh and the ethnic minorities, where the difference is up to 17 percent.

*Quality of education*. Amidst rapid economic growth and the globalization process, there is strong demand for a higher performing education system to build a sustainable foundation for human development. Vietnam's educational system still faces low quality teaching and learning. Low-quality schooling contributes significantly to insufficient learning outcomes. About 20 percent of enrolled students do not complete lower secondary education and the corresponding figure for primary education is 8 percent in 2012. This phenomenon suggests that the payoffs to universal primary and secondary education is limited if students are not acquiring necessary knowledge and skills for higher education and unable to meet the changing demand of a growing economy. Low education quality partially results from poor school facilities, learning and teaching equipment as well as the weak capacity of teachers and school management staff.

In order to improve student performance and the quality of the education system, it is important to identify the underlying ways of building up sustainable and cost-effective solutions. Education policy reforms would be most effective at improving qualification of teacher and school qualities. Research studies suggest three areas of policy reform to address the current problems of inadequacies in teacher and school factors: *(i)* school supply and price of schooling, *(ii)* school resources/management, and *(iii)* teachers and pedagogy. While previous and current policies have more and less addressed these areas, there should be a more systematic and comprehensive set of policies to address each dimension and select the appropriate target group for support to ensure the effectiveness of policy implementation.

## MDG 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

### 3.1 Progress

Vietnam has achieved rapid progress on gender equality targets. *Regarding education access*, the country has almost eliminated gender disparity in primary and lower secondary education over the period 2006-2010. There is no significant difference in net enrolment rates between boys and girls in primary and lower secondary education. Net enrolment rates for primary education in 2010 were 92.3 percent and 91.5 percent for boys and girls respectively. The corresponding figures for lower secondary education were 80.1 percent and 82.6 percent[12]. Disparity in school access is more apparent at upper secondary education, with a significant 10 percent higher female enrollment. *With regard to employment*, the male workforce still shows huge advantages in access to higher-income and decent work. Labor force participation rate for males is 9 percent higher than that of female and this trend persists over the past few years. In 2010, the percent of males aged 15 and over working as waged employment in the non-farm sector is 40.2 percent, almost 1.5 times higher than the corresponding figure for their female counterparts (28 percent)[13]. *Regarding female representation in social and political positions*, women held 24.4 percent of seats in the National Assembly.

### 3.2 National polices

The Government has acknowledged the importance of gender equality in social economic development through the establishment of multiple national-scale programs and strategies on gender equality for the period 2011-2020. These policies define gender equality as the fundamental element in building up a solid human resource foundation as well as in elevating quality of life for each individual, each family and the whole society, therefore aim to raise awareness on gender equality and change social behavior and perceptions that have been deeply rooted in the society. For the first time, the Government has established the National Program on Gender Equality 2011-2015 and the first National Strategy on Gender Equality 2011-2020 fostering implementation of Gender Equality Law 2006. This establishment marks groundbreaking change in national approach towards gender equality in Vietnam. These policies put focus on *(i)* capacity building for women to encourage their active participation in cultural, social economic activities as well as to strengthen their positions in social and political arenas *(ii)* promote women's access to public and social services *(iii)* raise awareness in the society about gender equality and eliminate gender inequality behaviors and perception in the family and in the community through organization of campaign, mass media, capacity building projects for women.

[12] VHLSS 2010, GSO
[13] VHLSS 2010, GSO

Vietnam has received considerable support from international organizations and agencies in tackling gender inequality issues, especially for disadvantaged groups. UN Women plays a critical role in policy dialogue with the Government and facilitation of National Program and National Strategy for Gender Equity through its provision of technical and financial assistance to the Government, local authorities and targeted beneficiary groups. The three-year Joint Program on Gender Equality (JPGE) is among notable support programs. Through JPGE, 12 UN agencies in partnership with the Government of Vietnam have provided strategic, coordinative and multi-sectoral capacity building and technical assistance for relevant national and provincial parties in implementing the GEL and DVL. The program provides evidence-based information for national policy dialogues on gender equality with special attention being paid to marginalized groups, such as rural women and their families in poverty.

### 3.3 Challenges and recommendations

*Inequality in higher education*. As primary education has gradually been universalized in Vietnam and access to lower secondary education has been substantially enhanced with increases in school numbers and geographical coverage, gender inequality is no longer a critical problem at these educational levels. Gender equality becomes more evident in higher education, including upper secondary and tertiary education.

*Employment*. Gender inequality still persists in the labor market. The rural labor market in particular has experienced increasing gender inequality in terms of access to wage employment[14]. While males are increasingly over-represented in high-productivity, formal jobs, a large section of women still undertake low-productivity, informal jobs, especially in agriculture and services. In 2010, 78.4 percent of employed female workers undertook farm activities as their main jobs, while the corresponding figure for their male counterparts is 24 percent lower[15]. Even though agricultural work accounts for a large share of the rural job market, the earnings from this sector are usually insufficient to fulfill a family's basic needs.

*Female representation in National Assembly*. In 2011, the percentage of female representation in National Assembly is 24.4 percent, 1.4 percent lower than the previous year's figure. Nevertheless, female representation in National Assembly in Vietnam is relatively high compared to worldwide. The figure is the highest among Southeast Asia countries. Statistics shows a lower number of women candidates and lower election rates as compared to men. 2011 figures show women candidates accounted for only 34.1 percent of the whole candidate group and rates of election for women is 20 percent lower than men[16]. The traditional roles of women in the family and in Vietnamese society, complemented by deep-rooted perceptions of gender bias, create further obstacles for women towards obtaining an important position at workplace.

Gender biased perception and limited knowledge and access to legal information, such as the Law on Gender Equality (GEL) and the Law on Domestic Violence Prevention and Control (DVL) contribute towards evidence of gender inequality. *First*, gender bias results in the phenomenon that males are more respected and given more privileges than females in family and society. Many families have a preference for sons, resulting in a significant disparity in boy-girl ratio at birth. Sex ratio at birth in 2009 is reported at 110.6 boys to 100 girls nationally[17]. *Second*, limited knowledge on legal documents protecting human rights such as the GEL and DVL put women, especially those from low

[14] Vietnam Employment Trends Report 2009 and 2010 by MOLISA and ILO
[15] VHLSS 2010, GSO
[16] Inter-parliamentary Union
[17] Vietnam Housing and Population Census 2009

educational background, at a disadvantaged position in their family as well as in the society. Limited knowledge and awareness of gender equality is a big challenge towards obtaining MDG3.

Female empowerment and gender equity cannot be achieved solely with the implementation of policies and programs on gender equality. The goal can only be realized through simultaneous multi-sector efforts in the education, health and employment sectors. As the problem cannot be solved solely by improving physical conditions but also by changing perceptions, communication campaign and mass media plays an important part in raising awareness of the society. These activities require substantial cooperation between relevant parties and agencies as well as substantial funding.

## MDG4: Reduce Child Mortality

### 4.1 Progress

Rapid progress in reducing mortality rates among children under five years old during the past 20 years is obtained. In 1990, under-five mortality rate stood at 58 per 1,000 births. This rate decreased considerably to 23 per 1,000 births[18] by 2012. Remarkable achievements are recorded for underweight children below 5, with significant reductions from 45 percent in 1990 to 16.8 percent by 2011. The stunting rate for under-five children has consistently declined from 63 percent in the period 1992-1993 to 27.5 percent in 2011. The figure for immunization coverage for 7 types of vaccines is reportedly more than 95 percent in 2010[19].

### 4.2 National policies

A child's right to life, survival and development has been widely acknowledged as a universal right in all international human rights documents including the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) which was ratified by the Vietnamese government in the early 1990s. Vietnam government has expressed its strong commitment on ensuring children's rights to health and survival through the introduction of diverse policies and programs. The *Law on the Protection, Care and Education for Children*, the *Health Insurance Law* has been amended. Multiple national programs on protecting children and promoting every child's nutrition condition and immunization have been implemented for the period 2010-2015. Notably, placing nutrition and immunization for children as top priority since the 1980s has yielded direct impacts on reducing child mortality and malnutrition. The child nutrition program mainly targets child malnutrition, underweight births, and micronutrient deficiencies among women of reproductive ages. These programs have obtained remarkable success in promoting public health through eliminating polio, reducing maternal and neonatal tetanus and controlling measles by home-based immunization program[20]. Not only funding is allocated for vaccine equipments purchase but also incentives have been created for health workers to ensure full immunization for children[21].

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[18] GSO, 2012

[19] Vietnam Ministry of Health (2012). Joint Annual Health Review 2012: Improving quality of medical services. JAHR N. T. K. Tien. 06.
Vietnam Ministry of Health (2011). Joint Annual Health Review (JAHR) 2011: Strengthening management capacity and reforming health financing to implement the five-year health sector plan 2011-2015 N. T. K. Tien. Hanoi. 05.

[20] UNICEF Vietnam (20[illegible] "The children in Viet Nam." Retrieved 01/03, 2012, from http://www.unicef.or[illegible]ietnam/children.html.

[21] Knowles, J. C., S. Bales, et al. (2008). Health equity in Viet Nam: A situational analysis focused on maternal and child mortality "Equity in Access to Quality Healthcare for Women and Children" Halong, Vietnam, UNICEF Vietnam.

### 4.3 Challenges and recommendations

Substantial decreases in child mortality and enhancement in child nutrition demonstrate remarkable health quality improvements, yet, disparities still exist among ethnicities, regions, income groups and this gap tends to widen over time. The rate of neonatal mortality has declined but still accounts for approximately 70 percent of infant deaths. While the reduction in the rate of underweight children is impressive, the prevalence of stunting remains high at nearly 30 percent for general stunting and 10.5 percent for severe stunting[22]. Increasing gender differences is noticeable as all malnutrition indicators suggest a more disadvantaged situation for girls.

National policies have achieved significant progress in raising immunization rates and controlling serious diseases, but the goal of expanding the immunization program during the period 2011-2020 requires immense effort from the government and agencies in introducing new vaccines, and managing the rising program expenditures. Recent rising public concerns about the negative side effects of immunization questions the safety standards of immunization activities and demands that more attention is paid to R&D and communication channels. The possibility of incorporating immunization with other health system interventions as those applied in many other health systems around the world[23] should be considered.

Nutritional programs should closely address micronutrient deficiency among young children through different approaches such as awareness-raising campaigns for mother and caregivers. Nutritional programs dealing with child stunting should target mothers from disadvantaged background and poor education as well as pay adequate attention to dealing with the shortage of well-trained nutritionists in disadvantaged areas, which has created growing inequality in child malnutrition among regions.

## MDG5: Improve Maternal Health

### 5.1 Progress

Significant achievements have been recorded through notable reduction in maternal mortality rate and improvement in expanding access to high-quality reproductive health care services. While in 1990 there were 233 maternal deaths for every 100,000 live births, this rate declined to 64 per 100,000 live births in 2012[24]. This impressive progress is attributed to comprehensive national policies and programs which have helped increase access to maternal health care and improve the health care services.

### 5.2 National policies

Acknowledging the importance of reproductive health and population planning, the Vietnamese government has enacted wide-ranging policies, strategies and programs aimed at sustaining replacement-level fertility, ensuring women's rights to maternal health care, promoting availability and quality of reproductive health services, as well as strengthening human resources and management in reproductive health area. While national policies in 1990s and early 2000s laid the focus on family planning, the attention has been shifted to reproductive health care since mid-2000s. *Vietnam Population Strategy 2001-2010* and *2011-2020* gives priority to improving physical,

[22] National Institute of Nutrition (2010). Summary Report: General Nutrition Survey 2009-2010.
[23] United Nations Vietnam (2009). Review of Expanded Program of Immunization Vietnam 2009: National EPI Review Report Hanoi.
[24] GSO, 2012

intellectual and spiritual well-being of the population in addition to maintaining the constant trend of reducing fertility rate. Further accentuation on universal access to reproductive health care is included in the *Population and Family Planning Programme* whereby the targeted beneficiaries entail not only couples of productive ages but also unmarried youths and those of vulnerable communities[25].

Numerous national programs and strategies on reproductive health have been implemented. These programs provide different approaches such as raising awareness on reproductive health for adolescent, mother as well as providing health care services for children. Specifically, the *Master Plan on Safe Motherhood* implemented since 2003 has created the most resounding impacts on addressing the consistently high rates of maternal and neonatal mortality. The Master Plan sets priorities on promoting accessibility to essential obstetric and neonatal care and on strengthening the quality of these services and concentrates on issues in mountainous and remote areas.

National interventions on reducing maternal mortality and promoting reproductive health care have been undertaken by the government and agencies in close collaboration with international institutions. Notably, UNFPA has supported the Vietnamese government in the formulation of key national policies and strategies as well as in collecting and analyzing population data to identify emerging demographic trends in the country's context. This strong partnership has contributed to increased effectiveness of nation-scaled interventions, bringing about a rapid increase in contraceptive prevalence rate and significant decline in total fertility rate.

### 5.3 Challenges and recommendations

One of the foremost problems facing most aspects of the health sector is the regional disparities in health status of women. Every maternal health indicator reflects a far more disadvantaged situation for women residing in rural, remote and mountainous areas compared to their counterparts in urban and delta areas. The availability of maternal health care infrastructure, competent medical staff and reproductive health care services are generally limited in those areas.

Three-quarters of maternal deaths occur during delivery or immediately afterwards[26]. To sustain low maternal mortality rate and to improve maternal health in disadvantage regions, both central and local authorities should strengthen the skills of care providers for maternal health and newborn care including community-based birth attendants, midwives, and medical staffs in both public and private health care units. Health care promotion activities should be developed in close collaboration with mass organizations. More attention should be paid to enhancing community-based referral systems for complicate case[27] treatments.

Limited knowledge about reproductive and sexual health among youths and older people causes critical problems in maternal health. Despite increasing adoption of contraceptive methods during recent decades, a large section of the population does not have access to contraception[28]. Cultural attitudes towards sexuality limit women's access to modern contraceptive methods and other medical services. Awareness-raising & communication campaigns and medical counseling are necessary to changing attitudes towards reproductive health care. More reproductive health care promotion programs should be made available to adolescents so that these target groups can openly

[25] Vietnam Ministry of Health (2010). Joint Annual Health Review 2010: Vietnam's Health System on the Threshold of the Five-year Plan 2011-2015. JAHR Nguyen Quoc Trieu. Hanoi. 04.
[26] UNICEF Vietnam (2010). An analysis of the situation of children in Vietnam 2010.
[27] UNFPA Vietnam (2007). Achieving the Millennium Development Goals: UNFPA's responses to the needs of Safe Motherhood and Newborn Care in Viet Nam. Hanoi, Vietnam
[28] United Nations Vietnam (2012). MDG 5 factsheet for Vietnam. Hanoi.

discuss health issues with their partners and professional health staffs and adopt modern contraceptives to avoid sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancy.

## MDG 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases

### 6.1 Progress

HIV prevalence rate has increased from 187 per 100,000 people in 2009 to 220 per 100,000 people in 2012[29]. Among men who have sex with men and men who inject drugs, HIV prevalence rates are 16.7 percent and 14.5 percent respectively. Antiretroviral treatment (ART) coverage increased by around 1.5 times at the end of 2011 compared to that in 2009. According to 2011 statistics, around 53 percent HIV-affected adults and 83 percent HIV-affected children receive ART[30]. The rate of tuberculosis has decreased but the rate of contracting tuberculosis remains high. Tuberculosis rate decreases from 374 cases per 100.000 people in 2000 to 225 cases per 100.000 in 2011.

### 6.2 National policies

*Malaria*. The Government has set the goal for the period 2011-2020 is to eliminate malaria in 40 provinces and cities by 2020 and to fully eradicate malaria in the whole country by 2030. Ministry of Health has introduced 2011-2020 Agenda for controlling tuberculosis by mapping out tuberculosis prevention network reform to align with the national socio-economic development goals and rising demands for health care services.

*HIV*. Intensive effort in response to the spread of HIV is reflected through the state's acknowledgement of HIV as an important and multi-sectoral issue that requires collaboration among various ministries and agencies. HIV policy is mainstreamed into key national development policies, strategies and decisions. Multiple policies and legal documents have been formulated and promulgated to strengthen the legal framework for HIV/AIDS interventions for the period 2011-2015.

The national policies have provided a comprehensive plan to deal with the epidemic and set out two major goals of reducing HIV prevalence rate and minimizing the epidemic's impacts on socio-economic growth. National policies also target female sex workers, the most vulnerable groups with high risk of contracting the diseases, and provide prevention methods for this group. With regard to legislative framework on treatment and care for people living with HIV, Vietnam has adopted WHO Guidelines 2010 on the initiation of ART along with various decisions and strategic plans to improve the treatment and care for vulnerable people. Protecting HIV-affected children through introducing social protection program and eliminating mother-to-child transmission has become a key focus of national policies and strategies[31] for the most vulnerable groups.

### 6.3 Challenges and recommendations

While MDG target on malaria control has been achieved and impressive progress has recorded on controlling other epidemics in Vietnam, the target on HIV/AIDS[32] is a highly challenging task. One of the key obstacles to implementation of HIV/AIDS prevention and control is the low community's

[29] GSO, 2012
[30] United Nations Vietnam (2012). MDG 6 factsheet for Vietnam. Hanoi.
[31] National Committee for AIDS, Drugs and Prostitution Prevention and Control (2012). "Vietnam AIDS response: Progress report 2012. Following up the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS."
[32] United Nations Vietnam (2012). MDG 6 factsheet for Vietnam. Hanoi.

awareness and knowledge related to drug injections and safe sexual behaviors. Evidence suggests limited knowledge about preventing HIV/AIDS transmission and treatment of rural residents, ethnic minority groups, adolescent, poor households and people of low education background, making these groups more vulnerable and allowing for rapid transmission of the virus among communities.
A significant challenge facing national efforts on controlling HIV/AIDS epidemic is heavy reliance on international funding. Majority of funding for government programs and strategies on HIV/AIDS comes from international donors. It is important to mobilize and allocate more internal resources to sustain its progress in the long-term. Building up and strengthening local partnerships to create stronger engagement of different sectors are crucial to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of implementing HIV/AIDS prevention programs.

## MDG 7. Ensure environmental sustainability

### 7.1 Progress

*Environment.* Vietnam has actively integrated sustainable development into national policies and development plans from central to local levels. The Socio-Economic Development Strategy 2011-2020 has set out sustainable development principles with strong emphasis on the tight connection between socio-economic development and environmental protection. With regard to environmental sustainability, forest coverage increased slightly from 39.1 percent in 2009 to 39.7 percent in 2011 but biodiversity faces loss and degradation threat.

*Living condition.* Housing and living condition of households have improved significantly, especially in access to water and sanitation of rural households. By 2010, 87.4 percent of rural households use safe drinking water, an increase of 8.4 percent from 2009. 67.1 percent of rural households have access to sanitary latrines, a substantial increase from 43 percent in 2009[33]. The percent of households living in temporary dwellings decreases from 7.8 percent in 2009 to 5.6 percent in 2010.

### 7.2 National policies

*Climate change.* Vietnam has been actively addressing climate change issues through its integration of environment sustainability into development plans from central to local levels. The government has been persistent in building a comprehensive framework on climate change and setting out the national target of increasing adaptive ability to climate change and reducing carbon emission. Programs in responding to Climate Change for the period 2012-2015 have been established, covering both mitigation and adaptation plans. The programs primarily helps updating climate change scenarios, building appropriate plans and measures to monitor and respond to climate change situation and to implement demonstration mitigation and adaptation models.

The government has reinforced its strong commitment on environmental sustainability through introducing National Target Program on Green Growth towards 2050. This program aims to facilitate the reduction of greenhouse gas emission and encourage the usage of clean and renewable energy. Vietnam has received financial support from international organizations and agencies such as Korean, Denmark, European Investment and Development Bank (EIB) in adoption of renewable energy.

*Water and sanitation.* Policies in water and sanitation have been constructed separately for rural and urban areas. *For urban areas,* the policy on provision of water for the urban areas and industrial parks was introduced. By 2020, urban water supply development was targeted towards meeting 100

[33] VHLSS 2010, GSO

percent of the demand for clean water, reduction of non-revenue water down to 15 percent and 24 hours/day water supply service in all urban areas in Vietnam up to 2025. *For rural areas*, water and sanitation have been receiving adequate attention. The Government introduces National Target Program for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation 2011-2015 with primary objectives of building sanitary water supply system and latrines for rural residential areas and rural school compounds.

Vietnam has received both financial and technical support from international organizations and agencies in improving water and sanitation. The World Bank and the Australian Agency for International Development have lent 200 million USD for Vietnam to improve water and sanitation in eight provinces of the Mekong delta. The program is expected to provide 1.7 million people with clean water and to improve sanitation for 650.000 people. WHO, USAID and UNICEF have assisted the government in developing a comprehensive framework for water supply and sanitation plans.

### 7.3 Challenges

*Climate change.* Vietnam has become increasingly exposed to climate-related disasters. In 2009, the country experienced 113 extreme weather events, resulting in 334 death toll and loss of 1.15 percent of GDP[34]. Natural disasters resulted from climate change are more likely to affect poorer, rural households, who are highly reliant on natural resources and climate-sensitive livelihood activities. The Central part suffers from frequent typhoons, which accounts for 80 percent of disasters affecting Vietnam. The Mekong River Delta is subject to river floods. With regard to greenhouse gas, annual emission per person has been increasing albeit at a slow rate. Climate change poses huge challenge for the country in its journey towards MDG 2015.

*Water and sanitation.* Despite an increased access to water and sanitation throughout the country, level of access in remote and mountainous areas is still highly limited. In 2010, the Northern midland and mountainous areas, the Mekong River Delta and the Central Highlands experience the lowest level of access to clean water (80.3 percent, 81.5 percent, and 82.8 percent respectively). The highest level of access belongs to the Red River Delta (98.6 percent) and the South East (98.1 percent). The huge disparity in terms of access to safe water reinforces the importance of support policy in disadvantaged areas. Similar pattern in regional disparity is reflected in access to sanitary latrines. Access to sanitary latrine for the most disadvantaged group is below 50 percent while that of better-off region is above 90 percent[35].

## MDG 8. Global Partnership for Development

### 8.1 Progress

The foreign policy of "*independence, sovereignty, multilateralism and diversification*" in regional and international relations has pushed Vietnam towards a more active role in international integration process. The country has obtained a number of achievements in international cooperation. Regarding multilateral relations, Vietnam became an official member of WTO in 2007, a non-permanent member of U.N Security Council for the 2008-2009 term, hold ASEAN chair in 2010 and joined ASEAN – China free trade area (ACFTA) in the same year. Vietnam has successfully hosted numerous international as well as regional summits like APEC 14th in 2006, ASEM in 2009, 19th World Economic Forum (WEF) on East Asia in 2010, 44th ADB annual meeting and 3rd ASEAN-EU Business Summit in 2013. Regarding bilateral relations, Vietnam has developed diplomatic relations with over 170 nations, expanded trade relations with over 230 countries and territories, signed over 90

[34] VHLSS 2010, GSO
[35] VHLSS 2010, GSO

bilateral trade agreements, approximately 60 investment promotion and protection agreements and 54 double or multiple tax avoidance agreements and plenty of bilateral cultural cooperation agreements with other countries and international organizations[36].

With regards to international trade, high level of trade openness has promoted economic growth. Since 2006, Vietnam has experienced an impressive export growth. The average annual export growth rate during 2006-2010 was 17.2 percent annual. By 2011, export value increased by 33.3 percent, reaching USD 96.26 billion. Trade openness has risen from 155.4 percent in 2010 to 169.8 percent in 2011[37]. Together with strong export growth, Vietnam is also one of the world's leading exporters of rice, coffee, pepper and cashew.

### 8.2 National policies

Acknowledging the vital link between trade, debt relief, aid and sustainable development which is reinforced by effective global partnership, the Vietnamese government has made an impressive progress in strengthening global partnership for development. National partnership strategies, in alignment with the country Socio-Economic Development Strategy (SEDS) 2011-2020, emphasize competitiveness, self-reliance, promotion of advanced technology and skillful labor as well as efficiency in utilization and attraction of foreign aid.

To address an anticipated sharp decline in foreign aid when the country reaches the middle-income country status, Orientations for Attraction, Management and Use of Official Development Assistance and Other Preferential Loans of Donors during 2011-2015 were established. The Orientations not only generates comprehensive improvements in the institutional framework on ODA management and utilization but also provides in-charge state agencies with thorough guidelines on promoting the effectiveness of ODA-funded activities.

*With regard to trading policies*, the Government has designed strategy to promote goods import and export for the period 2011-2020. The Strategy sets out the objectives of sustaining goods export growth rate, simultaneously reducing trade deficit to achieve trade balance by 2020, and achieving trade balance surplus by 2030. The Strategy has laid a strong focus on promoting production especially high value-added products in order to enhance the national competitiveness on the global markets. Deeper and more proactive economic integration is also strongly emphasized. *With regard to national debt*, the strategy on public and foreign debt by 2020 aims to guarantee a balanced state budget to ensure national financial security while meeting the debt repayment obligations in a manner that does not affect the government's international commitments.

### 8.3 Challenges

Although Vietnam is on the way to removing trade restrictions as part of the agreement when joining WTO, the country has been faced with multiple difficulties. In export market, trade protection and barriers become more complicated; certain goods faces dumping. Globalization has made Vietnamese economy more vulnerable to economic crisis. The country still faces the problems such as exported goods have low comparative advantage; technology is underdeveloped, there is critical shortage of skilled workers and the economy depends heavily on foreign investment.

[36] Reports of ministries/agencies of the National Committee for International Economic Cooperation
[37] Vietnam economic perspective 2012-2013

## Part B. Thematic focus

"Science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the MDGs"

### *Background*

Science, technology, innovation play an indispensable role in promoting economic growth and social development. In the era of rising globalization and economic integration, science and technology advancements ensure national stature and prosperity in the face of growing competition. Science, technology and innovation contribute to MDGs through fostering knowledge access, promoting productivity, creating decent jobs, expanding access to health care and essential drugs, achieving food security and enhancing renewable energy technologies to reduce energy shortage and mitigate climate change[38].

Vietnam has actively opened its market to international trade and foreign investment. Embracing technological and scientific progress as the key drive for development, the Vietnamese government has highlighted the importance of promoting science, technology and innovation in the transition to industrialized and modernized country. The liberalization of S&T sector had been initiated since economic renovation in the late 1980s. The year 1992 marked a milestone in the development of science and technology management and subsequently brought about radical reforms in the national S&T structure. There have been significant improvements in developing infrastructure for science and technology, stimulating research and development (R&D), expanding higher education system and promoting local research capacities. Some notable progress of the sector is indicated through the rising number of R&D institutions in Vietnam from 519 in 1995 to over 1,000 by 2008 and a substantial increase by more than thirty times to 666 patents granted in 2008. The strength of the sector is found in such areas as immunology and microbiology, agricultural and biological sciences, and mathematics. Since 1995, Vietnam has always been listed among top gainers on Knowledge Assessment Indicator developed by the World Bank for significant improvement in information technology and innovation[39].

### *National policies and achievements*

Economic integration has enabled Vietnam to acquire advanced technological and scientific skills, and benefit from technological transfer from developed countries. Impressive growth rate of more than 5 percent allows increasing capital accumulation, which brings about rising investment in S&T. Since 2000, state budget allocated for science and technology has been at 2 percent. That R&D investment on average accounting for 0.6 percent[40] of national budget represents a comparable or higher level than that of other countries in the regions.

Incorporating science and technology as an impetus for national growth in the Socio-economic development strategies, *Law on Science and Technology* has been enacted since 2000 providing legal framework for organization and operation of scientific and technological activities[41]. Ten-year

[38] Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). (2012). Science, technology and innovation: Overview. Retrieved on March 12th 2013 http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/science.shtml

[39] Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). (2011). *OECD Review of Innovation in Southeast Asia - Country Profile of Innovation: Vietnam*, as part of the series OECD Review of Innovation in Southeast Asia

[40] Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). (2011). *OECD Review of Innovation in Southeast Asia - Country Profile of Innovation: Vietnam*, as part of the series OECD Review of Innovation in Southeast Asia

[41] Law on Science and Technology

strategy for 2011-2020 for science and technology development is to turn S&T into a driving force for socio-economic development, and with the target to increase the value of high-tech and applied science products to 45 percent GDP, S&T growth rate to 20 percent and investment on S&T to more than 2 percent GDP by 2020.

A wide range of national targeted programs have been launched towards national goals for S&T. These programs encourage the application of advanced technology, establish enterprises in S&T area, improve S&T infrastructure and promote S&T human resources. Encouraging the application of latest technological and scientific achievements, in terms of energy efficiency and conservation is strongly upheld for 2011-2015.

Political commitment and rising state attention to building up a ground-breaking S&T system contribute to remarkably improved efficiency in almost every socio-economic aspect, especially in agricultural sector. The introduction of advanced technology and innovations are conducive to increasing overall productivity, and generating high-quality breeds and seeds, which ensures food security and accelerates agricultural restructuring process. From a net food importer, Vietnam has become the world's leading exporters in rice, coffee and other key staples.

Significant reforms also take place in S&T management mechanism. The role and responsibilities of in-charge state agencies are clearly defined and restructured. More attention has been paid to S&T staff recruitment through a transparent and equal procedure. S&T agencies receive higher level of autonomy in conducting S&T activities, which create a more favorable environment for enhancing public knowledge on the importance of S&T application and growing S&T advancements.

The country's local capacity has been continuously improved. By 2012, Vietnam has around 2,478,000 college undergraduates, reaching a ratio of 280 undergraduates over 10,000 people[42]. The number of higher education institutes is estimated at 380 in 2010. The government aims to increase the ratio of scientific researchers and professional staff in information and communication technologies to nine or ten people per 10,000 and at least 5000 highly skilled engineers capable of undertaking production lines in spear-headed fields by 2015.

***Limitations***

Vietnam still lags behind international nations. The level of S&T development has not met the requirements of economic growth. Total factor productivity (TFP) in Vietnam only accounts for 6 percent of changes in national productivity levels, suggesting that growth mostly results from increases in human and financial capital. According to a system ranking national economic competitiveness based on technology, Vietnam has obtains the lowest score relative to the countries' with comparable development in the region[43].

*Low investment and funding.* The ratio of investment for S&T per capita and ratio of researchers over Vietnam population are relatively low. Low funding leads to poor and outdated infrastructure and inadequate facilities in institutes and higher-education institutions; this hinders their innovation and their effort in developing world-class research works. Most of local private SMEs experience the lack of information and limited access to latest technologies. Leading firms with high-tech application are primarily multinational or foreign invested.

*Human resource shortage.* Vietnam still encounters a shortage of S&T high-skilled workers, particularly pioneer engineers and young researchers who are capable of leading large-scale

[42] GSO, 2012
[43] OECD, 2011

research projects. The situation results from poor research infrastructure and facilities along with unattractive compensation in most public research institutions. Inflexible and unfavorable research environment create substantial barriers for people to enter the field. Unfavorable working conditions at local S&T institutions results in severe brain drain. A growing number of highly-qualified Vietnamese students remain abroad upon completing their education abroad, which results in an enormous manpower loss.

*Ineffective management mechanism.* The existing central mechanism of managing S&T field remains relatively rigid and ineffective. Most administrative activities pay attention to managing inputs while the quality and efficiency of S&T activities in designated institutions remain unattended. The Ministry of Science and Technology plays a limited role in coordinating innovation-related public policies. S&T institutions have not yet obtained full autonomy in developing their own development strategies and financial plans as well as directing international collaboration.

***Recommendations***

To promote S&T as the driving force for the socio-economic growth, the role of the public sector in the continual economic reforms needs to be reviewed. Their current role as a dominant actor should be shifted to a catalyst role to encourage the connection between innovation producers and end-consumers. Redefining the role of the state sector in legal documents and national policies is necessary for the revision of government's priorities on mobilizing resources for non-state sector.

Supporting mechanism for S&T enterprises is also crucial. Greater autonomy should be granted to institutions to maximize human resource capacity and promote its operative efficiency. Local firms need more incentive to increase their investment in S&T and innovation such as tax exemption and substantial funding for S&T-related activities.

Reforms of the financial management mechanism are also brought forward as a vital requirement. Reforms should not be limited to providing incentive mechanism to address the 'brain drain phenomenon' but also need to cover the mechanism of assigning government funded projects to organizations and individuals. The fact that current investment on S&T is mobilized from the state budget and still subject to provisions in the State Budget Law creates huge hindrance for recipients' in conducting independent research activities.

## STATISTICAL ANNEX

| | Indicators | 1990 | 2005 | 2008- 2009 | 2010- 2012 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **MDG1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger** | | | | |
| 1 | Poverty rate | 58% *(1992)* | 19,5% *(2004)* | 14,5% *(2008)* | 14,2% *(2010*)*<br>*10.7% (2010)* |
| 2 | Poverty gap | 18,4% *(1993)* | 4,7% *(2004)* | 3,5% *(2008)* | 5,9% *(2010)* |
| 3 | Under-five malnutrition | 41% | 25,3% | 18,9 *(2009)* | 16,8% *(2011)* |
| | **MDG2: Achieve Universal Primary Education** | | | | **Achieved** |
| 1 | Net primary enrolment rate | 87% | 95% | 97% *(2009)* | 97,67% *(2012)* |
| 2 | Primary completion rate | | 85,6% | 88,5% *(2009)* | 92,08% *(2012)* |
| 3 | Net secondary enrolment rate | | 81% | 83,1% *(2009)* | 87,24% *(2012)* |
| | **MDG3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women** | | | | |
| 1 | Ratio of Female to Male primary enrolment | 47,7% *(1998)* | 47,7% | 47,9% *(2009)* | --- |
| 2 | Ratio of Female to Male secondary enrolment | 47% *(1998)* | 47,9% | 48,5% *(2009)* | --- |
| 3 | Ratio of Female to Male upper-secondary enrolment | 46,4% *(1998)* | 48,9% | 52,6% *(2009)* | --- |
| 4 | Ratio of Women's representatives in National Assembly (NA) of Vietnam | 18,48% *(9th NA, term 1992-1997)* | | 25,76% *(12th NA, term 2007-2011)* | 24,40% *13th NA, term 2011-2016)* |
| 5 | Ratio of Women's representatives at Provincial People's Councils | 21,1% *(term 1999-2004)* | | 23,9% *(term 2004-2009)* | --- |
| 6 | Ratio of Women's representatives at District People's Councils | 21 % *(term 1999-2004)* | | 23% *(term 2004-2009)* | --- |
| 7 | Ratio of Women's representatives at Commune People's Councils | 16,1% *(term 1999-2004)* | | 19,5% *(term 2004-2009)* | --- |
| | **MDG4: Reduce Child Mortality** | | | | **Attainable** |
| 1 | Under-five mortality rate | 58‰ | 27,3‰ | 25‰ *(2009)* | 23,3‰ *(2011)* |
| 2 | Under-one mortality rate | 44,4‰ | 26,0‰ | 16‰ *(2009)* | 15,5‰ *(2011)* |
| | **MDG5: Improve Maternal Health** | | | | |

| | Indicators | 1990 | 2005 | 2008- 2009 | 2010- 2012 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Maternal mortality ratio per 100,000 live births | 233 | 80 | 69 *(2009)* | 67 (2011)[44] |
| 2 | Ratio of births attended by skilled medical staff | | 92,71% *(2006)* | 94,8% *(2009)* | 96,7% *(2011)* |
| 3 | Ratio of women aged 15-49 using contraception | 73,9% *(2001)* | | 80% *(2008)* | 78,2% *(2011)* |
| 4 | Ratio of pregnant women having at least 3 check-ups during their pregnancy | | 84,3% | 86,4% *(2008)* | 86,7% *(2011)* |
| | **MDG6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases** | | | | |
| 1 | HIV prevalence rate | | | 0,28% *(estimated)* | 0,28% *(estimated 2011)* |
| 2 | HIV prevalence rate per 100,000 people | | | 187 *(2009)* | — |
| 3 | Number of HIV-infected adults having ARV | | 7.812 *(2006)* | 36.008 *(2009)* | — |
| 4 | Number of HIV-infected children having ARV | | 428 *(2006)* | 1.987 *(2009)* | — |
| 5 | Number of malaria-infected cases | 293.000 *(2000)* | | 60.867 *(2009)* | — |
| 6 | Number of malaria-infected deaths | 71 *(2000)* | | 27 *(2009)* | — |
| 7 | Ratio of acid-fast bacilli (AFB) infected cases per 100,000 people | | 65 *(2007)* | 46 *(2009)* | — |
| 8 | Ratio of newly recovered tuberculosis-infected patients | | 89,9% *(2007)* | 89,8% *(2009)* | — |
| | **MDG7: Ensure environmental sustainability** | | | | |
| 1 | Forest coverage prevalence | 27,8% | 37% | 40% *(estimated 2010)* | 39,7% *(2011)* |
| 2 | Share of rural population having access to clean water | 30% | | 79% *(2009)* | 87,4% *(2010)* |
| 3 | Share of rural households having sanitary toilets | 20% | | 43% *(2009)* | 67,1% *(2010)* |
| 4 | Share of households living in temporary housing | 22,7% *(1999)* | | 7,8% *(2009)* | 5,6% *(2010)* |
| | **MDG8: Global Partnership for Development** | | | | |
| 1 | Total imports and exports (million USDs) | | 69.206 | 127.045 | 228.364 *(2012)* |
| 2 | ODA commitment (million USDs) | 2.400 *(2000)* | 3.748 | 8.064 *(2009)* | 6.486 *(2012)* |

*Note. — data non-available*

*2010* according to the Government poverty line 2011-2015*

[44] Joint Annual Health Review 2012

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